(ii) The Conference recommends that the policy be finalised at an early date under the auspicies of the National Water Resources Council.

Watershed Development Scheme in Madhya Pradesh

2271. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to the watershed development a People's Programme;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this direction in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the details of fund earmarked for the Programme during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes Sir. The National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas is essentially a People's Programme in which Government is facilitating improvement in production and productivity in rainfed areas of the country.

(b) A number of steps like training of Mitra Kisans and Gopals, establishment of Barani Chetna Kendras within the micro-watersheds, etc. have been taken to promote People's participation in the programme.

(c) An amount of Rs. 176.80 crore has tentatively been earmarked for Madhya Pradesh under the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas in the VIII Five Year Plan.

"छोटी महानदी" जबलपुर पर बांध का निर्माण

2272. **श्री शिव प्रसाद चनपुरिया :** क्या **जल संसाधन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या "छोटी महानदी" पर बांध का निर्माण करके सूखा-प्रवण क्षेत्रों के आदिवासियों की आर्थिक उन्नति तथा विकास का मार्ग प्रशस्त करने हेतु कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

शहरी विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और जल संसाधन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री पी. के. थुंगन) : (क) छोटी महानदी-नदी पर बांध के निर्माण का कोई प्रस्ताव केन्द्र में प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Privatisation of Central Water and Power Research Station Khadagwasla

2273. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to privatise the Central Water and Power Research Station at Khadagwasla;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the staff working at this centre; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.